

--Boom operating valves, a stick operating valve, etc. for respectively controlling hydraulic fluid fed from hydraulic pumps to boom cylinders, a stick cylinder, and other actuators are provided with center by-pass lines Cb. A stick-in meter-out load pressure compensating valve is provided on a rod-side return line, which extends from a rod side of the stick cylinder to a tank. A pressure sensor is provided at the rod side of the stick cylinder so as to detect pressure of hydraulic fluid fed to the rod side. The center by-pass line Cb associated with the stick operating valve is provided with an electromagnetic relief valve for controlling the pressure in the portion of the center bypass line downstream from the stick operating valve so as to increase the pressure in accordance with.--

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